

January 3, 2005

Dear Member of the Delaware Bar:

Re: 2005 Annual Registration Statement

Attached is the 2005 Delaware Supreme Court Annual Registration Statement with the **reduced assessment** schedule. **Please make sure that you use this year's registration form, as there have been amendments to the form.** You must file the Annual Registration Statement with assessments with the Court by **February 1, 2005**. Failure to file in a timely manner will result in a late assessment of \$100.00. Lawyers who received Rules to Show Cause **in the past** for their failure to file their Annual Registration Statement in a timely manner are hereby placed on notice that they **may** be required to appear before the Court on a Rule to Show Cause and may incur sanctions if they again fail to file on time.

The Certificate of Compliance has been made a separate document and is to be filed directly with the Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection no later than February 1, 2005. Please follow the directions for completing the Certificate carefully and mail the Certificate directly to the Lawyers' Fund.

Please be advised that the **assessment schedule** has been **amended** by the Court to **reduce the assessments** paid by each active Delaware lawyer. The reduction ranges from \$80 to \$105 per active lawyer depending on registration category. Furthermore, the assessment funding is being reallocated to provide additional funding to the Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection to replenish the Fund which has approved many meritorious claims for payment during the past year. At the same time, the Court is reducing the assessment for the Office of Disciplinary Counsel and the Commission on Continuing Legal Education. To offset the reduced assessment funding, the Court has directed that *Pro Hac Vice* assessments paid by non-Delaware lawyers be designated to fund, in part, the Office of Disciplinary Counsel, the Commission on Continuing Legal Education, and the Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection. During the course of 2005, the Court will monitor the success of this assessment reduction initiative, prior to the issuance of the 2006 Annual Registration Statement, to ascertain whether further adjustments are warranted.

Supreme Court Rule 69(h) requires all lawyers to notify the Court in writing within 30 days of any change in the information provided in the lawyer's most recent Annual Registration Statement. If you change your office address, it is vital that you notify me immediately in writing on a sheet of your letterhead to ensure that your

address is changed in the Judicial Information System. Many court scheduling notices and other papers are sent to the address that you list in your Annual Registration Statement. Only the Supreme Court can change the addresses in the Judicial Information System.

Please direct all completed Annual Registration Statements with assessments and all questions regarding the registration process to Cathy L. Howard, Supreme Court Clerk. My address and telephone number are: Delaware Supreme Court, P.O. Box 476, Dover, DE 19903 and (302) 739-4155 or contact via email at cathy.howard@state.de.us

Very truly yours,

S/ Cathy L. Howard

Enclosures